

An aerial photograph of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The image shows a large body of water (the harbor) with a city (New Bedford) visible in the foreground and middle ground. The harbor is filled with various structures, including piers, docks, and industrial facilities. The city is densely packed with buildings and roads. The water is a deep blue color, and the sky is a pale yellow. The overall scene is a mix of urban development and natural water bodies.

# The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site

I. Background and cleanup plan

II. Major accomplishments to date

III. Vacant Aerovox plant

Cornell-  
Dubilier



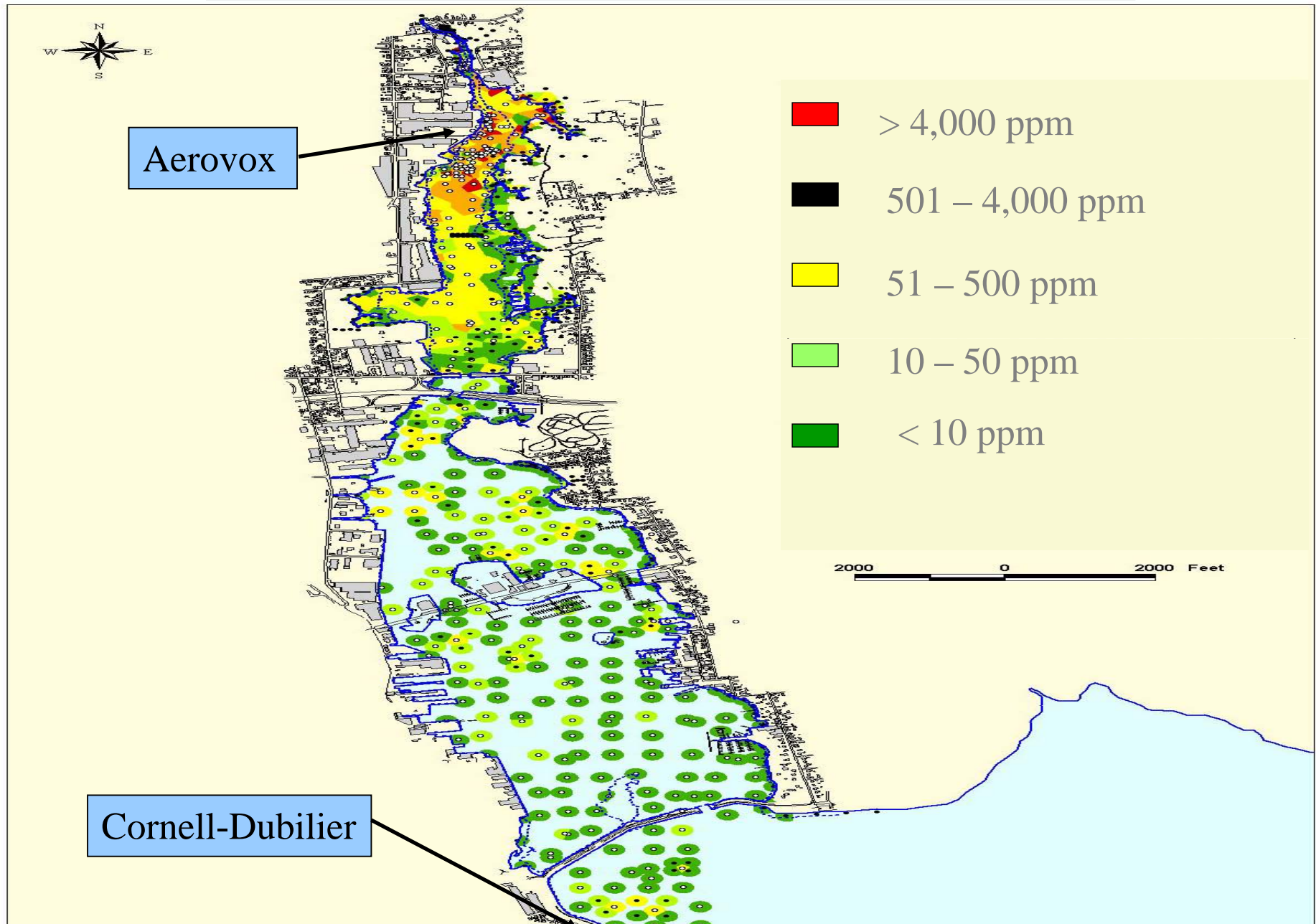
Aerovox

Wood St bridge

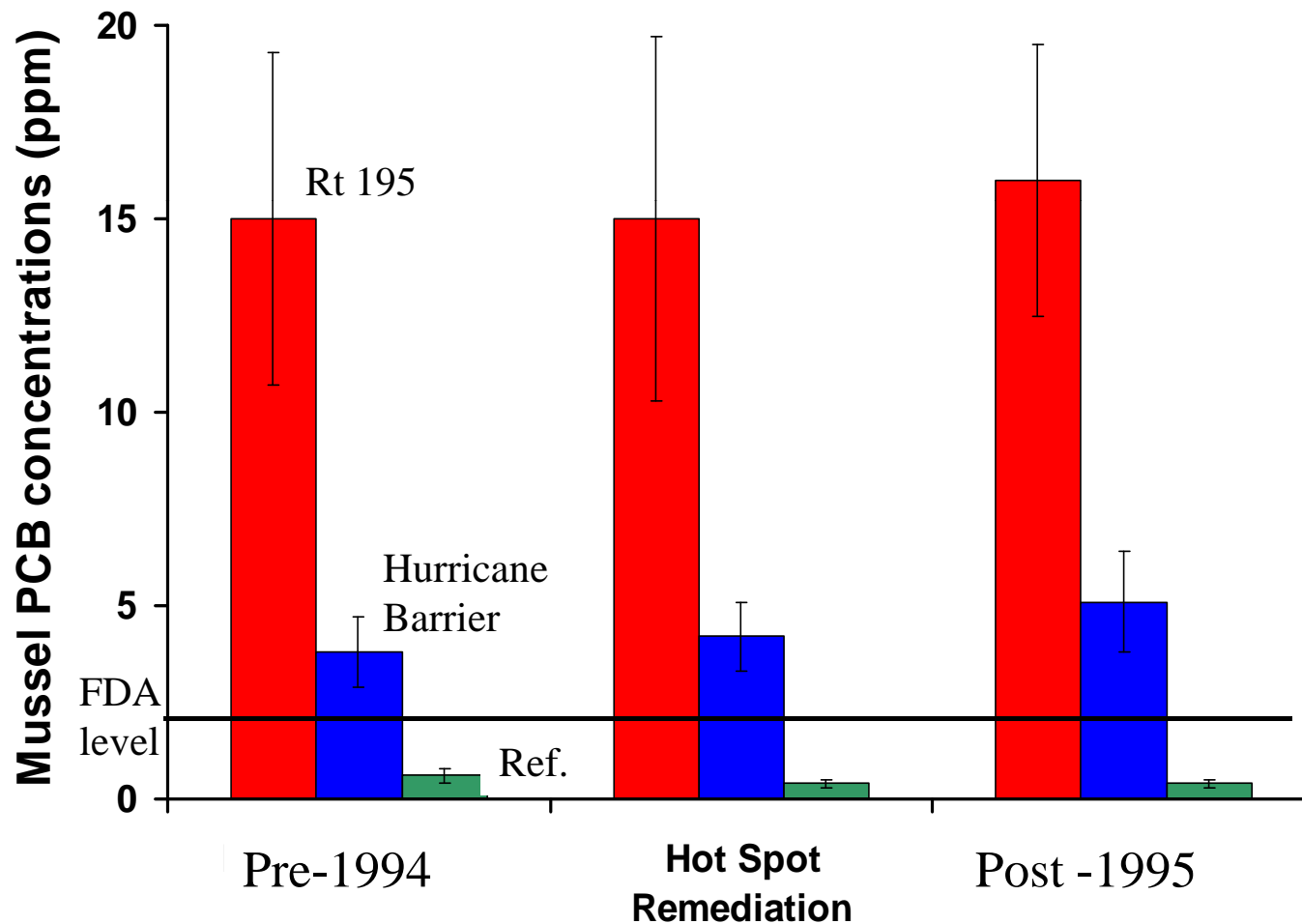
Another view of the harbor - looking south



# High levels of PCBs in sediment...

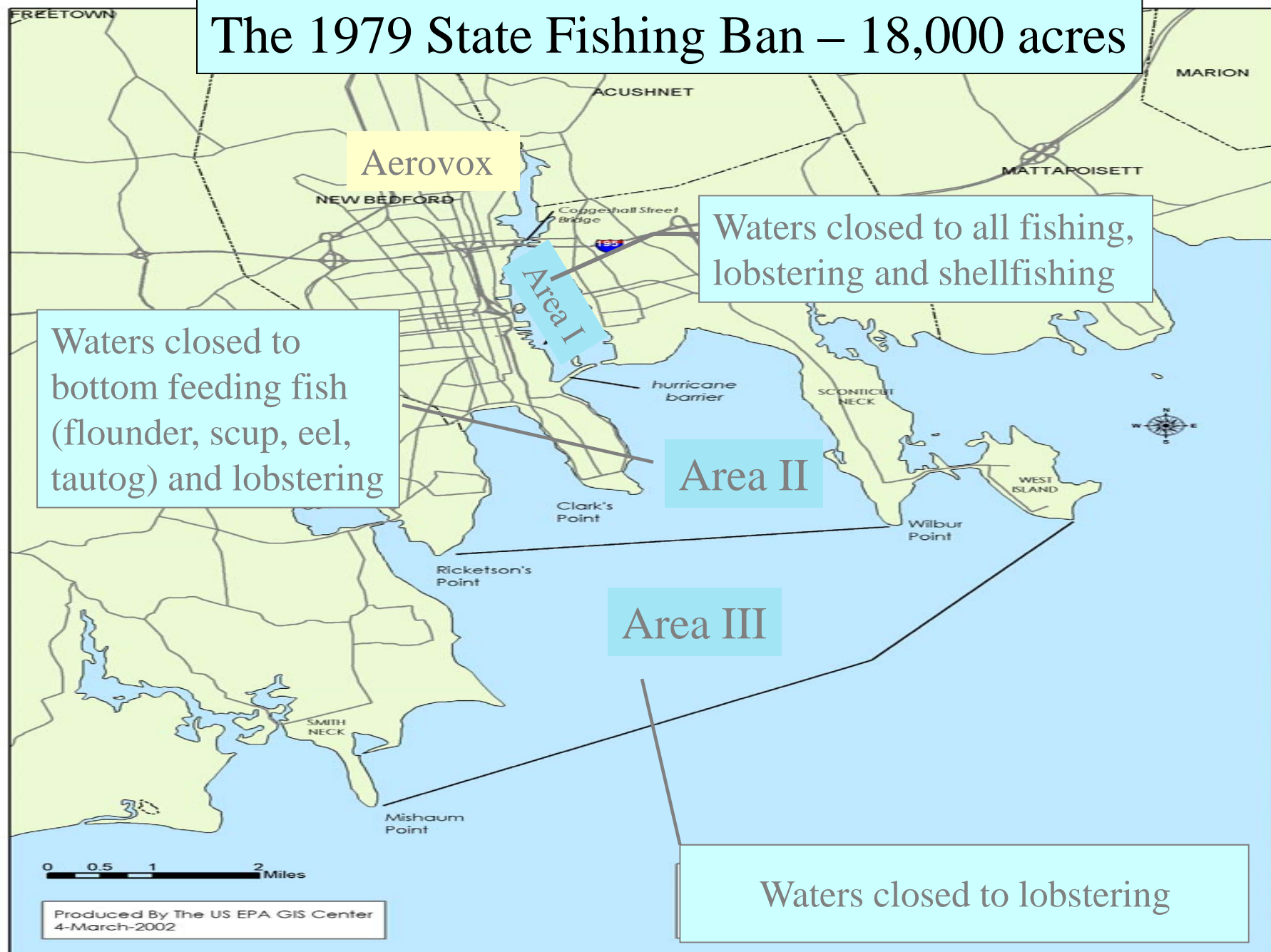


...lead to high levels of PCBs in fish  
& shellfish caught in the harbor



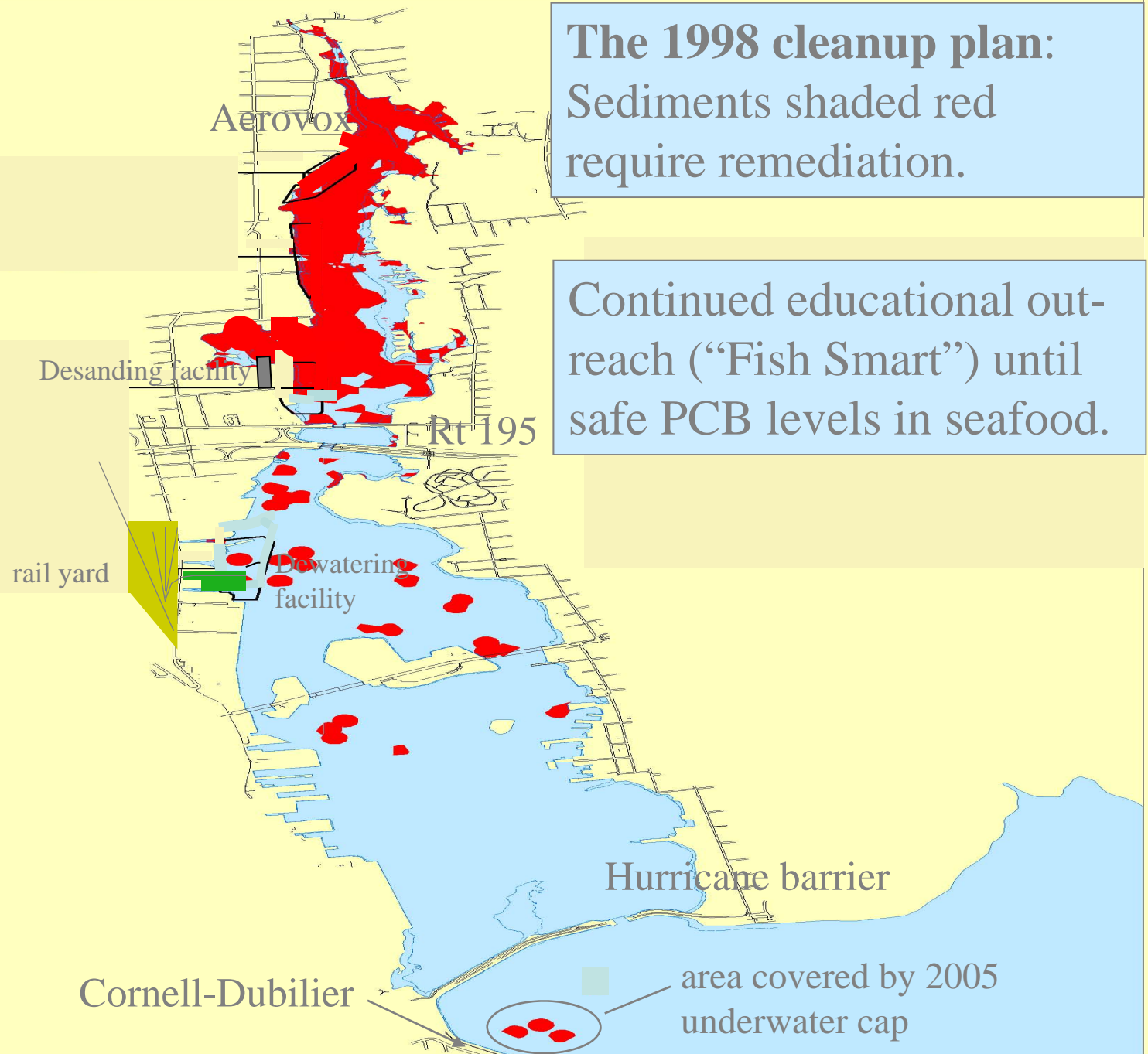


# The 1979 State Fishing Ban – 18,000 acres



**The 1998 cleanup plan:**  
Sediments shaded red  
require remediation.

Continued educational out-  
reach (“Fish Smart”) until  
safe PCB levels in seafood.



# The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site

An aerial photograph of New Bedford Harbor, Massachusetts. The harbor is a large body of water with several smaller inlets and peninsulas. The surrounding area is densely populated with residential and commercial buildings. The water is a deep blue color, and the sky is a pale yellow. The image is framed by a green border on the left and right sides.

## II. Major accomplishments to date



# Major Cleanup Accomplishments

- '94 – '05: 80,000 cubic yards dredged
- 2005: 19 acres capped south of the hurricane barrier
- '02-'03: Seven acres cleaned north of Wood Street
- '02: Abandoned vessels removed
- '01-'03: CSO relocations
- '01: NSTAR cable relocation

# Dewatering Facility Bulkhead under Construction - 2002/2003



A photograph of a large, long, light-colored industrial building with multiple bays and open loading docks, situated on a barge or pier in a body of water. The sky is blue with some clouds, and a city skyline is visible in the background. A large spherical buoy is in the foreground on the right.

# Completed Dewatering Facility



# Dewatering Facility Rail Spur





2002-03: Cleanup & Restoration of  
Acushnet River North of Wood Street





Future location of city park  
(brownfield redevelopment)

Completed Restoration





# **Three CSO Relocations:**

- Advanced City's CSO Master Plan**





NSTAR Power Cable Relocation 2001





Derelict Vessel Removal: allows  
for business relocation



Another view...





# Demolition and removal of the derelict vessels





# Construction of the relocated commercial pier

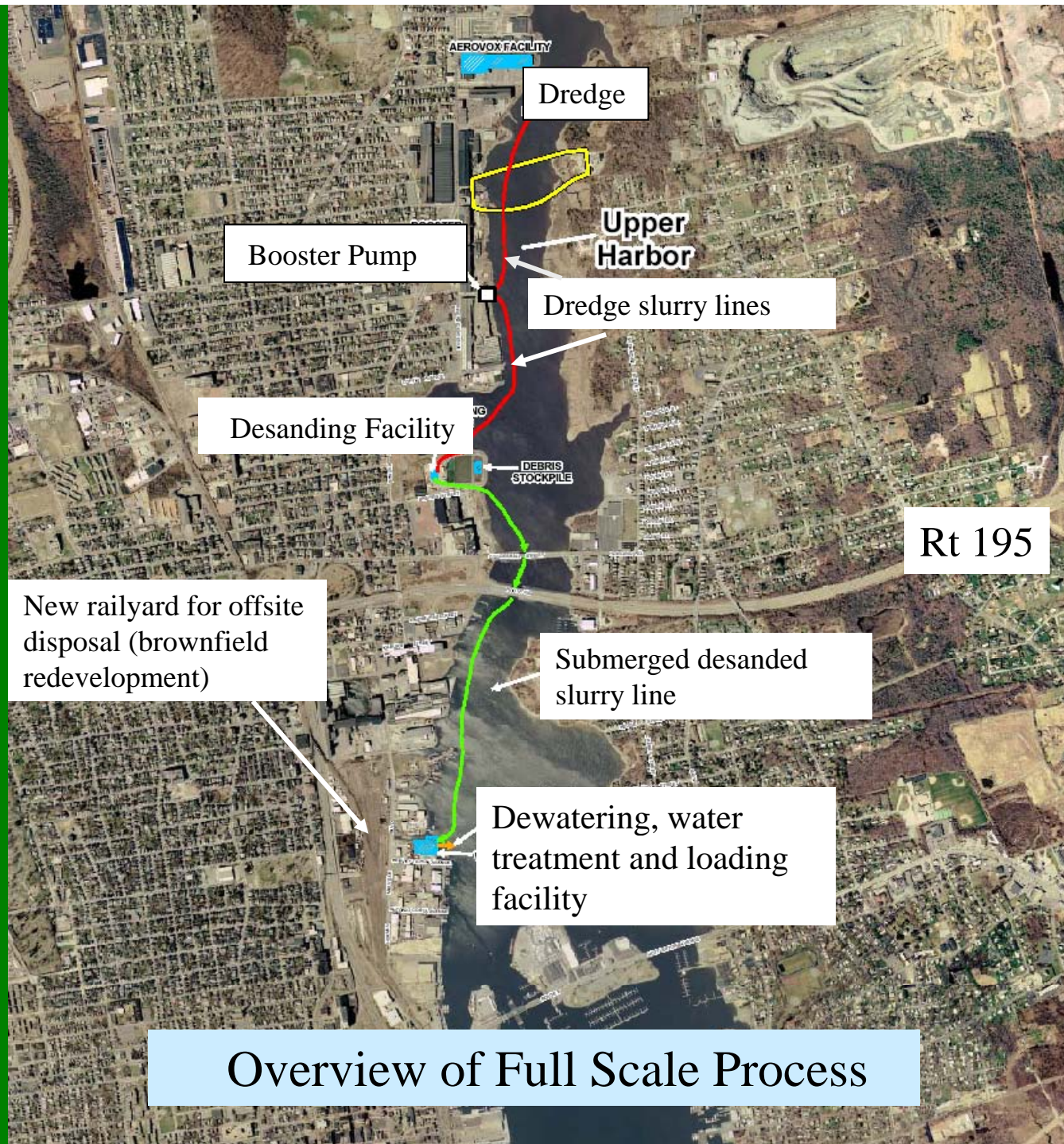




# Full scale dredging operations started in August 2004





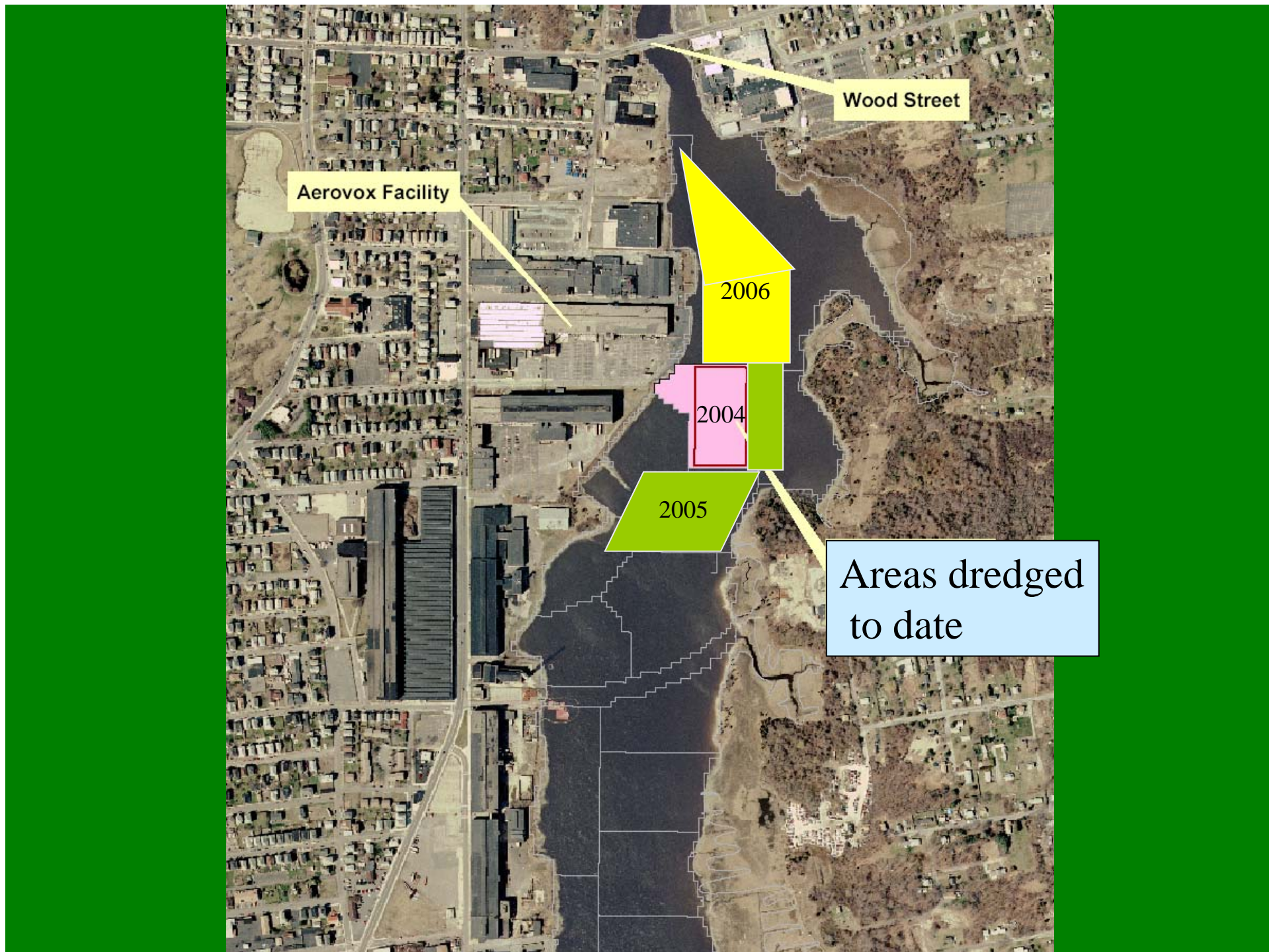


## Overview of Full Scale Process

Loading “filter cake” into a rail car  
inside the dewatering building





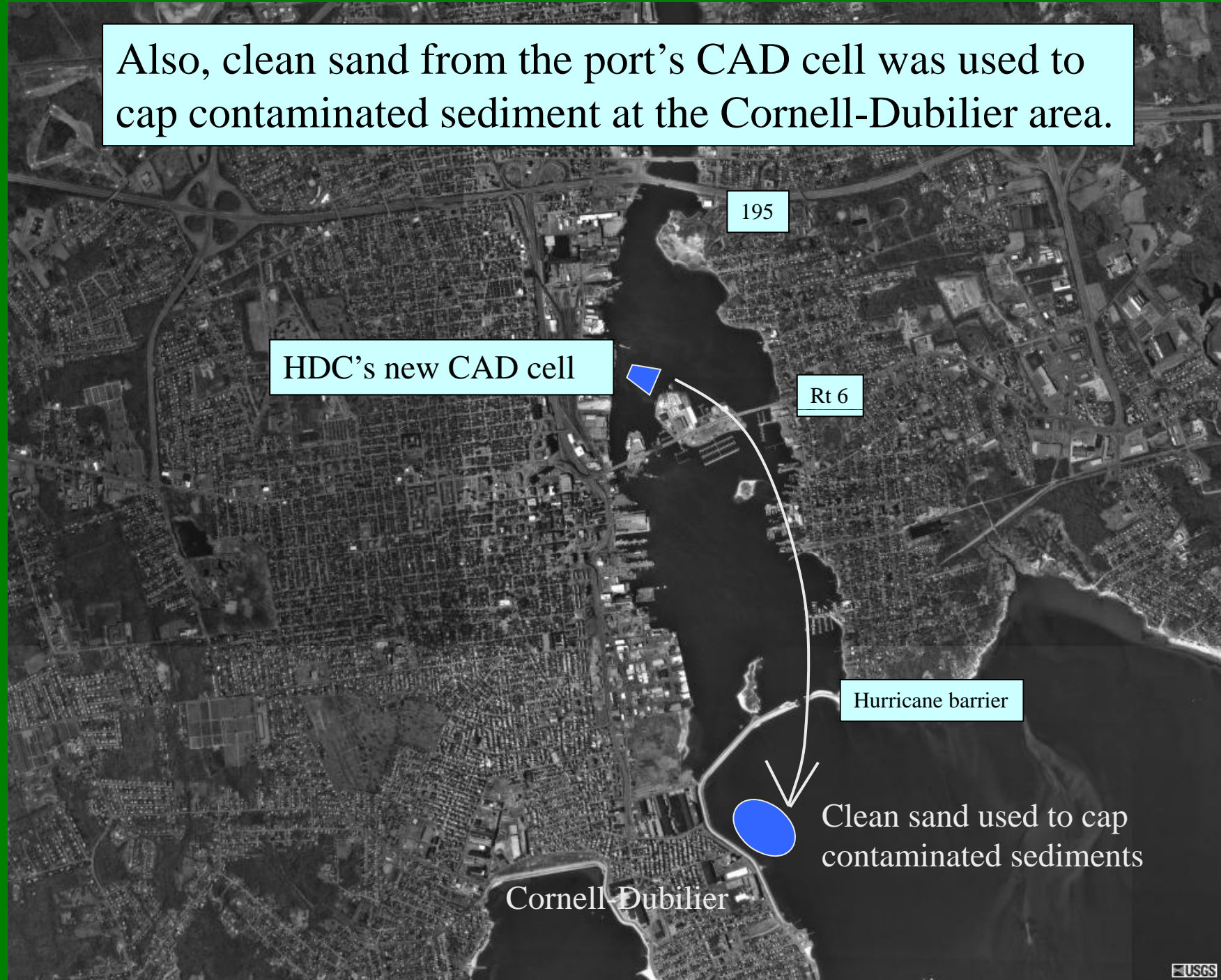


# Overlap with the Port's Navigational Dredging:

- “state enhanced remedy” provides use of Superfund permit exemption authority for navigational dredging
- EPA helps HDC and the MassDEP facilitate the process



Also, clean sand from the port's CAD cell was used to cap contaminated sediment at the Cornell-Dubilier area.





The clean sand being placed near Cornell-Dubilier



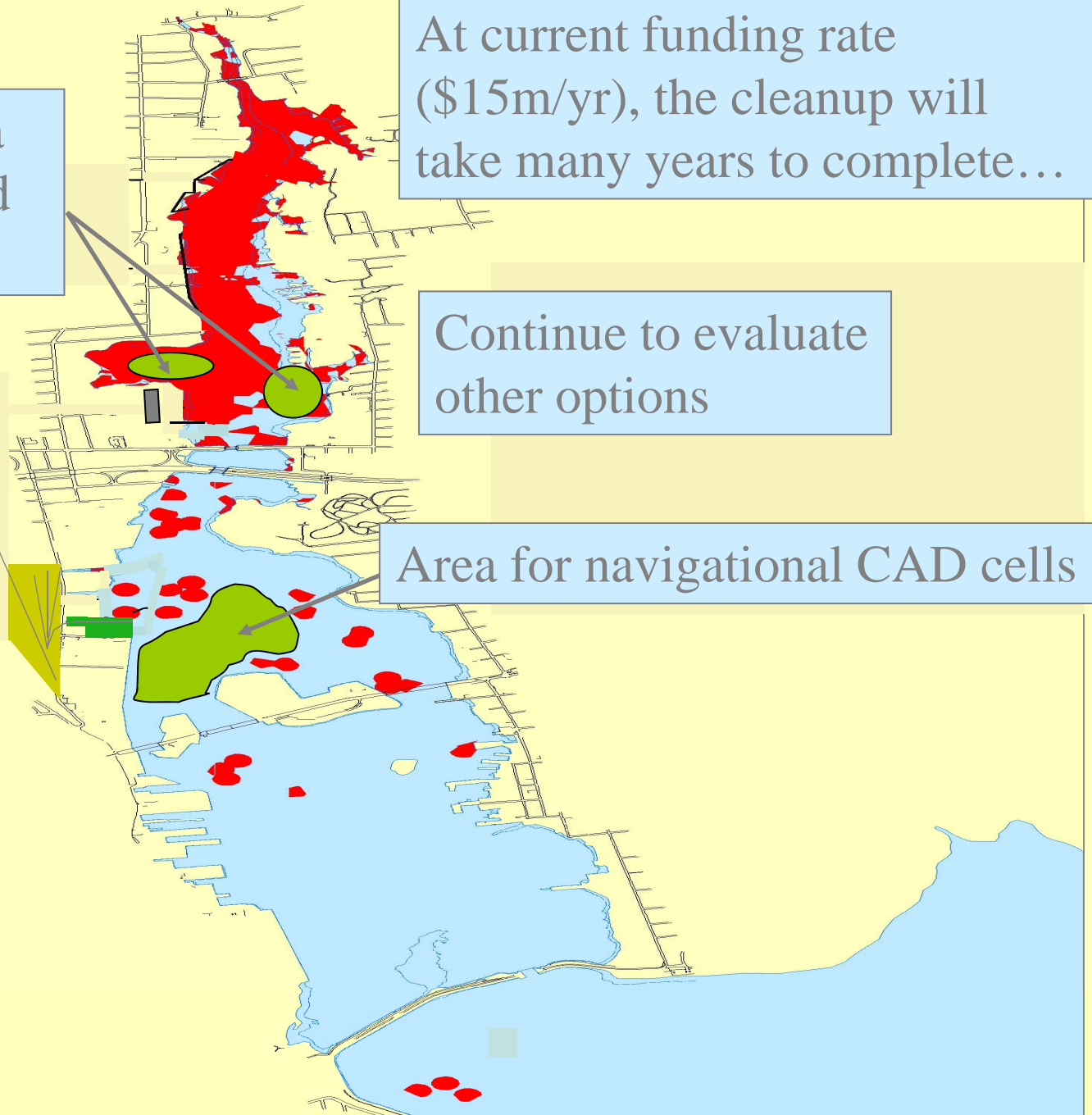
07/10/2005 09:33:01

Potential area  
for Superfund  
CAD cells?

At current funding rate  
(\$15m/yr), the cleanup will  
take many years to complete...

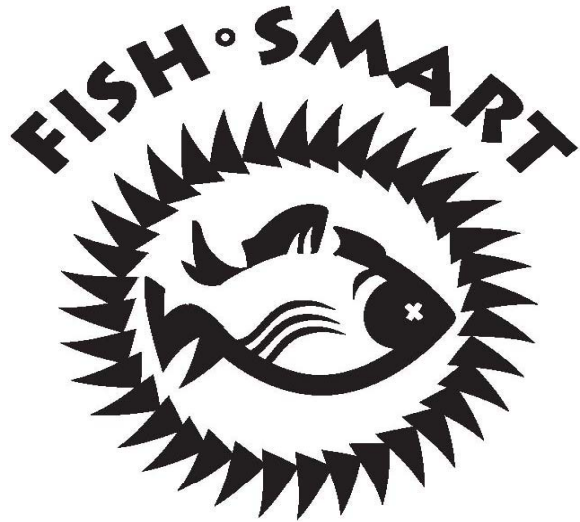
Continue to evaluate  
other options

Area for navigational CAD cells



# Fish Smart Campaign

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Designed to raise  
people's awareness of  
health risks from  
eating PCB  
contaminated seafood



## Targeted Audience

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- General Fishing Population
- Women of Child-Bearing Age
- Children

# Fish Smart Partners

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## State Regulators

- Mass DEP and MA DPH

## Local Partners:

- Educators
- Environmental groups
- Medical providers
- Social service providers
- Marinas & bait shops



# General Fishing Population

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- Mass mailing
- Materials at area marinas & bait shops
- Developing a poster for use at marinas & bait shops
- Materials at Immigrants Assistance Center

# Women of Child-Bearing Age

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- WIC Office
- Medical Grand Rounds
  - Local hospital
  - Area health center
  - Area OB-GYNs



# Children

## Two Day Teachers' Training

- Course included: field work, presentations, resource fair, tour of dewatering facility



# Teachers' Training



- Call Back Session:
  - Required prepared lesson plans
  - Teachers in small groups developed biomagnification lesson plans



# Children

- Educational Opportunities through:
  - Sea Lab, New Bedford Whaling Museum, UMASS at Dartmouth, Lloyd Center for the Environment
- Research Vessel: 5 wk course.
  - Will train the trainers

# Other Opportunities

- To-Do:
  - Bus Station/buses: posters
  - Public Housing: posters
  - Community centers citywide: posters
  - Public Service Announcements all media
  - Permanent display at Sea Lab
  - Engage new partners

# New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site



[www.epa.gov/ne/nbh/](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh/)



# Vacant Aerovox Site

## EPA/City Partnership

- \$8 Million Coop. Agreement
- Demolish Building
- Place Demolition Debris in Concrete Foundation
- Cover Site with Protective Cap
- Coordinate this cleanup with site redevelopment



- Public involvement!
- Separate Superfund reuse grant
- Start demolition June 2007?
- Public access and shoreline greenway





An aerial photograph of a coastal city. A large river flows from the top left towards the center. On the right bank, there is a large industrial area with several large, rectangular buildings and a prominent white smokestack. The city extends to the right, with a dense residential area featuring many houses and a church with a tall steeple. In the foreground, there is a lush green forested area with some houses and a small body of water. A text box is overlaid on the image, containing the text "project web site:" followed by the URL "www.epa.gov/ne/nbh" in red, underlined text.

project web site:  
[www.epa.gov/ne/nbh](http://www.epa.gov/ne/nbh)